

This I Believe patchwork

Imagine you are trying out something new. Would you like to succeed or to fail? I think the answer would be to succeed. This is what I always wanted to achieve whenever I do something. However, failing is always inevitable. I hate making mistakes and I would feel very frustrated and depressed. As time passes, I slowly came to a realization that every valuable experience I gain was from a mistake I made and success does not come easy. Eventually, I believe that experience is the key to success.

I slowly understood this from an unforgettable incident that happened to me. A few months back, my parents got me to pick up swimming. I was very unwilling to learn swimming as it was something new and different. On the first swimming lesson, my new swimming coach was already in the water waiting for me. When she smiled at me, she seemed like a terrifying apparition approaching me with an evil smirk on her face. How I dreaded swimming! My coach taught me some simple exercises with the float. At first, I tried out each exercise tentatively and carefully. Although I was nervous, I managed to do a series of exercises and all went well and smooth.

At the end of the lesson, I thought I mastered swimming and need not fear of the water anymore! I was thrilled and confident to swim on my own. However, the moment I started to swim all by myself, I began to sink. My head was all in the water as I waved my arms and legs frantically. I was coughing and spluttering and my vision was blurring. I was petrified at the thought that I would drown. Suddenly, I felt my coach grip me by my shoulders and held my face up so that I could breathe.

On the shore, my face was as pale as sheet as beads of cold sweat and water rushed down my cheeks. I sat there shivering uncontrollably and was totally unaware of my surroundings. I could only vaguely remember my parents rushing up to me and bringing me home.

After this incident, I refuse to touch the water again. Yet, my coach manages to persuade me. She said that the reason I almost drown was because I was still inexperienced in swimming and it was impossible for me to succeed on my first try. It takes hard work and time to become experienced in an area. I suddenly realize that even though I have failed, I gained a valuable experience--- to master something step by step.

After months of swimming lesson, I manage to achieve a bronze medal in swimming. Because of all the past experiences I got from my swimming lessons, I learnt many things. All these experiences serve as a constant reminder to me. Hence, I sincerely believe that to succeed in something is not easy and it is build up from all the experiences we gain while trying to succeed.